## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 EA-12 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-14 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 /115 W

-----089180 310043Z /75

R 301358Z JAN 78 FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2883 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY HELSINKI AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 0381

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECIN, SW, EEC, OECD
SUBJ: EC COMMISSION DESIRES COLLABORATION WITH SWEDEN IN CIVILIAN
AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION

1. THE STOCKHOLM PRESS REPORTED ON JANUARY 28 THAT A SWEDISH INDUSTRIAL DELEGATION, COMPRISING AMONG OTHERS, CURT MILEI-KOWSKY, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SAAB-SCANIA (SWEDEN'S LEADING AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURER), HANS STAHLE, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ALFA-LAVAL (LEADING MANUFACTURER OF DAIRY AND FARM MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT), AXEL IVEROTH, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF SWEDISH INDUSTRY, AND ERIK VON SYDOW, SWEDISH AMBASSADOR TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, FOR DISCUSSIONS ON VARIOUS FORMS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EC AND SWEDEN. ACCORDING TO HANS STAHLE, WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION OF SWEDISH INDUSTRY, THE TALKS MAY BE REGARDED AS A MOVE IN MAINTAINING REGULAR CONTACTS BETWEEN THE EC AND SWEDEN.

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2. THE EC OFFICIALS AT THE FRIDAY DISCUSSIONS, WHICH REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE ON THE INITIATIVE OF THE EC COMMISSION, PLACED PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE INTEREST OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY TO COLLABORATE WITH SWEDEN IN BUILDING NEW TYPES OF COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT. THEY EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE ADMIRATION FOR SWEDISH AIRCRAFT TECHNOLOGY BUT DID NOT DISCLOSE ANY DETAILS AS TO HOW COOPERATION IN CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION WOULD BE

ORGANIZED. FURTHER TALKS ARE REPORTEDLY TO TAKE PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. AXEL IVEROTH INDICATED THAT HE GOT THE IMPRESSION DURING THE TALKS IN BRUSSELS THAT THE EC IS INTERESTED IN EXPANDING COLLABORATION WITH SWEDEN ALSO IN OTHER AREAS, INCLUDING SHIPPING AND ENERGY, AND THAT THERE WAS A DESIRE TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION WITH SWEDEN ON VARIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. HE ADDED THAT, ON THE WHOLE, SWEDEN'S RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ARE NOW VERY GOOD. OTHER QUESTIONS DISCUSSED AT THE FRIDAY MEETING INCLUDED THE PREVAILING STEEL PROBLEMS FOLLOWING THE IMPOSITION LAST DECEMBER OF THE EC ANTI-DUMPING STEEL IMPORT RESTRICTIONS. THE EC COMMISSION IS REPORTEDLY IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING WITH VARIOUS STEEL PRODUCING NATIONS, INCLUDING SWEDEN, WITH THE VIEW TO CONCLUDING SEPARATE AGREEMENTS WITH THEM.

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: AIRCRAFT, PRODUCTION, JOINT VENTURES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 30 jan 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STOCKH00381
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D780045-0073 Format: TEL From: STOCKHOLM USEEC

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978016/aaaaafcu.tel Line Count: 79

Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 089463e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 17 feb 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** 

Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3769778 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EC COMMISSION DESIRES COLLABORATION WITH SWEDEN IN CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION

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To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/089463e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

**Review Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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